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The Art Part of Language Arts

A Collection of Art Projects that Correlate With Each Story in the Third Grade Houghton-Mifflin Anthology
By Victoria (Tori) Gonzalez, Liberty Elementary
Santa Maria-Bonita Unified School District

Theme 6

Story Title Pepita Talks Twice

Art Project “Make a Meal”

Story Summary: Pepita, who can speak both English and Spanish, decides that she doesn't want to “speak twice” anymore. When her decision creates problems she hadn't thought of, Pepita realizes that sometimes it can be a good thing to understand two languages.

Houghton-Mifflin Teacher's Edition – pg. 237B

Materials:

Houghton-Mifflin TE pg. R19 Vocabulary Expansion Activity

Old magazines

Paper plates

Scissors

Glue sticks

Pencils

Directions:

1. Pass out paper plates and have students divide their plate into three sections.
2. Brainstorm a list of menu categories i.e. appetizer, entrée, dessert, side dishes, etc.
3. Have students chose 3 categories, labeling each section of their plate with a category. Students will create a meal consisting of the three categories picked.
4. Pass out magazines and have students cut out meal items from their three choices and glue them in the proper section of their plate.

Teacher Tip:

Have the students pick categories they are familiar with, otherwise you'll have too many questions. Food magazines work great for this activity.

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Theme 6

Story Title

Poppa's New Pants

Art Project

“Make Poppa's Pants”

Story Summary: When Poppa's family tries to help him by shortening his new pair of pants before church in the morning, both George and Poppa end up with a big surprise.

Houghton-Mifflin Teacher's Edition – pg. 279O

Materials:

Houghton-Mifflin TE pg. TE 303 Make Poppa's Pants

Rulers

Butcher paper (1 sheet per small group)

Markers

Crayons

Scissors

Pencils

Directions:

1. Have students refer to page 303 of their anthology.
2. Students need to cut their butcher paper into the shape of pants, 48" long from waist to hem.
3. Using the story information, have groups mark three lines to show where each person hems the pants.
4. When finished decorate each pair of pants with their favorite pattern from page 281 of their books.

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Theme 6

Story Title

Ramona Quimby, Age 8

Art Project

“Draw a Shoe”

Story Summary: Ramona and her family struggle with a dismal, rainy Sunday. Beezus is moody, Ramona is sulky and Mr. and Mrs. Quimby seem tired and discouraged. The day turns around, though, when a trip to Whopperburger gives all the Quimbys something to smile about.

Houghton-Mifflin Teacher’s Edition – pg. 308A

Note: This art project connects more to the original, complete story, rather than the segment in the anthology. It may help to refer to pages 76-77 in the book Ramona Quimby, Age 8.

Materials:

Student’s shoes
Paper
Pencils

Directions:

1. Have students remove 1 shoe and place it on their desk.
2. Have them study the outside shape of their shoe when looking at it from the side, not the top or bottom view.
3. Have students sketch the shape of the shoe and then add the details.

Teacher Tip:

This story always falls at the end of the year when the students are easily “set off” and this activity will do it, so be prepared. I found that sketching my shoe as an example was helpful. Also, when I rotated around the room and showed off “successes” more students were interested in focusing on the task.